



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-8)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rep. Cook Applauds EPA's Decision to Withdraw Burdensome Obama-Era Mining Regulation

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative Cook (R-8) today released the following statement in support of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [recent decision to withdraw a burdensome Obama-era proposal](#) for increased financial assurance regulations on hardrock mines.

"I'm thrilled to see the EPA put the brakes on this redundant proposal that would hurt jobs and do little to improve the safety of the mining industry," said Representative David Cook. **"Decisions that affect the livelihood of Arizonans should remain on the state level, and I'm glad the EPA trusts our judgment to keep the mining industry safe here in the Copper State."**

Earlier this year, Representative Cook sponsored legislation urging the EPA to extend the commenting period for these financial assurance changes to at least 120 days, while also urging the EPA to confer with Arizona and federal agencies to evaluate whether existing regulatory programs reasonably address risks and if decisions should be considered at the state level.

Copper mines in Arizona produce 65 percent of all copper in the United States, and Arizona is the sixth-largest producer of copper worldwide.

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CONTACT:

Matthew Specht
Director of Communications
House Majority Staff
602-926-5518
mspecht@azleg.gov